

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 1051

By Mr. Kafka of Sharon, petition of Louis L. Kafka and others that the Board of Education be directed to establish guidelines for dissections in science classes in the public schools of the Commonwealth. Education.

## *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

### PETITION OF:

Louis L. Kafka	Susan W. Pope
Pamela P. Resor	Stephen Kulik
Kathi-Anne Reinstein	Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.
Ruth B. Balser	Susan C. Tucker
Eugene L. O'Flaherty	Matthew C. Patrick
Richard R. Tisei	James B. Eldridge
Edward G. Connolly	John P. Fresolo
William Smitty Pignatelli	Stephen M. Brewer
Douglas W. Petersen	Alice K. Wolf
Cynthia Stone Creem	Kay Khan
Shirley Gomes	Anne M. Gobi
Anne M. Paulsen	Susan C. Fargo
Michael E. Festa	Benjamin Swan
Paul J. Donato	Todd M. Smola
Robert J. Nyman	Byron Rushing
Patricia D. Jehlen	Kathleen M. Teahan
Brian Paul Golden	Lida E. Harkins
Barbara A. L'Italien	Robert P. Spellane
Reed Hillman	Frank M. Hynes
William C. Galvin	Thomas M. Stanley
Lida E. Harkins	Steven A. Baddour
Christine E. Canavan	Peter J. Koutoujian
Robert L. Hedlund	John H. Rogers
Peter V. Kocot	Walter F. Timilty

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In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO DISSECTION CHOICE.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 69 of the General Laws, appearing in the 2002 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by adding after section 1M the  
3 following new section:

4 Section 1N. The Board shall establish guidelines relative to dis-  
5 section in science classes in public schools. Such guidelines shall  
6 require all public schools that offer dissection as a learning  
7 activity to permit those students who choose not to participate in  
8 dissection to be allowed to demonstrate competency through an  
9 alternative method. Alternative methods shall not include a pupil  
10 being required to watch another pupil perform dissection. A  
11 teacher shall not discriminate against a student for not partici-  
12 pating in dissection.

13 Said alternative methods shall require a level of time and effort  
14 by the student that is comparable to, but not greater than, the level  
15 of time and effort required of students participating in dissection.  
16 The provisions of this section shall not excuse a student who does  
17 not wish to participate in dissection from taking and passing any  
18 examinations that are required of those students who do partici-  
19 pate in dissection.